

CHAPTER 8

Rules and Regulations of the Behavioral Health Division Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

Prevention Services

Section 1. Authority. This Chapter is promulgated by the Wyoming Department of Health pursuant to W.S. § 9-2-2701(b) and the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act at W.S. §§ 16-3-101 through 115.

Section 2. Purpose and Applicability. These rules have been adopted to establish standards for community substance use prevention and mental health promotion services to Wyoming residents.

Section 3. Prevention Services.

(a) Description of Services. Substance use prevention and mental health promotion services (including suicide prevention and early intervention programs and practices) are those provided in any community through a collaborative public health process based upon local data and needs, and employing evidence-based strategies.

(b) Needs Assessment. The prevention provider must demonstrate it has conducted or participated in conducting a community level needs assessment, or is using a previously completed, currently valid needs assessment. The needs assessment must include local level data reflecting substance use prevalence rates and the consequences to substance use. It must also include data on possible intervening variables. Examples of data sources include the Wyoming Prevention Needs Assessment, the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance Survey, Uniform Crime Reports, the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey, and the United States Census.

(c) Collaboration. The prevention provider must demonstrate it has collaborated with other community members and organizations in an effort to build capacity and mobilize the community. As evidence of this collaboration, the provider shall:

(i) Maintain membership in one or more local prevention coalitions or advisory councils; and

(ii) Document that the substance use prevention and mental health promotion services it provides support a comprehensive continuum of prevention services for the community it serves.

(d) Strategic Plan.

(i) The prevention provider shall demonstrate it is operating pursuant to a current strategic plan for prevention based upon local needs assessment data, supported by relevant

local coalitions or advisory councils, and detailing the implementation of evidence based prevention strategies.

(ii) The strategic plan shall identify evidence based strategies that specifically address the intervening variables most important in each community. These intervening variables shall be directly linked to targeted local substance use problems.

(iii) The strategic plan shall include the target population, measurable goals and objectives, timelines for planned activities, a logic model that details a theory of change, and an evaluation plan.

(iv) The strategic plan shall demonstrate an understanding of culturally diverse populations and include a plan for sustaining prevention efforts.

(e) Implementation of Evidence-Based Strategies.

(i) The prevention provider shall adhere to the goals and objectives of the strategic plan, including the selection and implementation of evidence-based policies, practices and programs for the prevention of substance use and mental health promotion. Promising evidence-informed policies, programs and practices that have a strong research base may be considered as “evidence based” under these rules with prior approval by the Department.

(ii) Staff providing substance use prevention and mental health promotion services shall, within six (6) months of employment, complete any such educational or skills-based substance use prevention or mental health promotion training as the Department may reasonably require.

(f) Evaluation. The prevention provider shall maintain and/or comply with a plan for evaluating the goals and objectives of their strategic plan, including the collection of data at the community and strategy level. The prevention provider shall work with local coalitions or advisory councils to use evaluation results to update their strategic plan and make other necessary decisions about the implementation of prevention strategies. The evaluation plan should incorporate consequence, consumption, and intervening variable indicators from the local needs assessment. The evaluation plan shall include:

(i) A procedure for collecting and reporting relevant process data (for example, the number of persons served by a prevention program) in a timely manner;

(ii) A procedure for collecting and reporting relevant outcome data in a timely manner;

(iii) A procedure for ensuring the confidentiality of information and for protecting the safety of human subjects that participate in evaluation research; and

(iv) Any such additional requirements as the Department may reasonably include in its provider contracts to further define essential needs assessment, collaboration, strategic planning, implementation, and evaluation activities.

Section 4. Severability. If any portion of this Chapter is found to be invalid or unenforceable, the remainder shall continue in full force and effect.